

ROUTINE
DE WTE #0628 0420003
R 111020Z FEB 76
FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 14//

TO PAUL BARBIAN FOR THE SECRETARY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EYES ONLY CONTAINS CODEWORD

VIA BLACK PATCH WH00183

TOHAK 14

FEBRUARY 11, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEMS

OPPOSITION TO PERON MOUNTING: OPPOSITION TO MRS. PERON'S GOV-
ERNMENT CONTINUES TO MOUNT AND THERE IS GROWING PUBLIC DIS-
CUSSION OF HER REPLACEMENT BY A MILITARY GOVERNMENT. THREE
POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE CALLED FOR MRS. PERON TO RESIGN IN ORDER
TO ALLOW A CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION TO THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT
CRISIS. LABOR LEADERS HAVE REACHED SUCH A POINT OF UNHAPPINESS
THAT AN OPEN RUPTURE IS LIKELY SOON UNLESS MRS. PERON MOVES
TO RESTORE LABOR'S INFLUENCE. LABOR LEADERS HAVE APPROACHED
OFFICIALS OF OUR EMBASSY SEEKING THE U.S. REACTION TO THE
POSSIBILITY OF A MILITARY TAKEOVER. FOR THE FIRST TIME THEY
HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SEE HER OUSTED. THE
LEADERS INDICATED LABOR WOULD FEEL OBLIGED TO MOUNT TOKEN
OPPOSITION TO A COUP BUT WOULD PROBABLY THEN COOPERATE WITH
THE MILITARY IN DEFENSE OF TRADE UNIONISM. OUR EMBASSY EM-
PHASIZED OUR NONINVOLVEMENT IN INTERNAL ARGENTINE AFFAIRS.

MILITARY LEADERS ALSO HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING A MOVE AGAINST
PRESIDENT PERON. [REDACTED] AN ATTEMPT IN
THE FEBRUARY 16-EARLY MARCH PERIOD. WHILE PREVIOUS REPORTS
HAVE PROVED UNFOUNDED, DISSATISFACTION WITH MRS. PERON IS NOW
SO WIDESPREAD THAT MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE
IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY LIKELY. (LOW)

0287

State Dept. review completed

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

SEC FILE, SOG

RECALLED

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